HOW ITS SIRE AND MULTIPLICITY IMPRESS AN AMERICAN PISITOR

The Majesty of the Law-An Army of Police men and Guards to Protect One-Con-troiling the Street Traffe-The Liquor Business and the Drinking Habit-Parks and Museums at Hand, but No Sun-day Amusements Except Churchgoing.

LONDON, Aug. 31. -In London one is continually impressed with the majesty of the law, and the longer one remains the stronger this ression grows. No city in the world is more perfectly governed or with more willingness on the part of its inhabitants. They respect their Government and are proud of their institutions. There is universal love for Queen Victoria and desire that she may long continue to reign. She has been in the broadest sense a constitu tional monarch. While she is said to be the shrewdest politician in Europe, she is exceedingly careful to show that same regard for England's iron-clad, though unwritten, constitu tion which she exacts from her subjects irrespective of rank. It is safe to predict that no sovdifferent solrit. In no other country except the United States do the people themselves possess such power. They freely elect their House of ns of 670 members to represent them, and when that great hereditary body, the 550 adversely upon any question of wide public inment is at once dissolved and the voters have an opportunity to indome or reject their decision. While here, as everywhere, there are count-less wrongs which ought to be righted, yet in many respects the English Government offers an example by which all nations might profit Imagine London with its population of 6,000,

000, and increasing at the rate of 70,000 per annum under such municipal government as prevails in our large American cities! There are 7,000 miles of streets here and all kept in a condition of the most praiseworthy cleanliness. The metro politan police district covers an area of nearly 700 square miles and is patrolled by 15,500 police There seems to be one at every lamp post and his power is autocratic. By raising one Anger he can stop an entire line of traffic and not a vehicle will move until he gives the signal. A careful estimate made several years ago placed the number of vehicles entering simply what is called the city, or business district, every 24 hours at 92,500. With all this enormous traffic, there never a collision, never a locking of wheels and rarely an accident.

The laws are absolute which govern this vast array of wagons, carts, omnibuses, carriages, ns, etc., that move along as orderly as funeral procession. The rule is to turn to the left, and the driver, no matter how great his hurry, who should out across the street would be instantly arrested. The pedestrian has never to look in but one direction as he crosses each half of the street, and may stop in the middle with perfect safety. In almost every block, in the centre of the street, is a raised place where he may stand until he sees an open space to cross. There is no fast driving. The hansoms and carriages may pass the bu and the latter may pass a loaded wagon, if there seems to be plenty of room, but they may no pass each other, unless one has stopped. Even in the most crowded sections there is never any wrangling or swearing. The policeman man ages all with the motion of a finger, because back of him is the Law, which in this matter at least is no respecter of persons. A short time age one of the great Lords of England was arrested and fined two pounds for fast driving in his own carriage, both policeman and magistrate remain of who and what he was

In addition to this vast body of metropolitan police there appear to be quite as many "guards." Every public building, every park, every spot frequented by sight-seers swarms with them, all in unitorm. It seems sometimes as if this were part of an effort, everywhere apparent, to provide employment for as many people as possible. One can not move without the consciousness of being At first so much espionage is very Irritating, but in time one learns to look with taxe upon it because of the sense of security it affords In no other city is there such a recling or satety, because or the official protectio on every hand. Sometimes these guards cross and tacitura and sometimes hopelessly stupid, but occasionally one proves to be delightfully entertaining, with a thorough knowledge of the history of England, her institutions, customs, ideas, &c. When you tell him you are an American, which doubtle unnecessary, he invariably says: "America is a great country," and usually adds that he ha prother or cousin there who is a policeman in New York or Chi. a.70. But it is a mistake to think that he would like to be there also, for most of the men who can make a living in England are sati fled to stay there. The loyalty and patriotism of the people are very marked

For instance, one is constantly struck with the number of soldiers on the streets and realizes that they are but a minute fraction of the thou sands who comprise the army and drain the coun try of her men and her money. But there is noth ing the English are so proud of as their army and navy, who are looked upon as the source of their power and the guarantee of its permanency. When their interest flags they are treated to a great military review, as a few weeks ago, 30,000 troops in all the bravery of their glittering regimental with a son of the Queen at their head, and their future king on the reviewing stand. A favorit saying in regard to the soldiers is: "We take the scum of the country and make men of them. This is an elastic term. Perhaps they are no worse than they would have been as civilians, and they have the advantage of discipline. When these soldiers are off duty they are usually seen sitting in the parks, riding on the busses, or promenading the streets with young girls. They are not el gible as husbands, and one can only hope that honor toward women is part of their code, for with their scarlet coats, gilt braid, and rakish little caps worn over one ear, they are almost

The visitor who remains in London long co-ough to study conditions will be most favorably impressed with the opportunities for recreation which are afforded to the people without money and without price. There are 3,000 acres of public parks, beautiful with trees, lakes and flowers. In addition there are the royal parks, handsome grounds around the royal home partially opened to the public, and many linds nooks and corners besides, which are utilized as "breathing spots." A number of the old church yards have been provided with seats for public convenience. The British Museum is open to the public free six days in the week and contains the finest collection in the world, representing millions of dollars and infinite re search Simply to walk through the different rooms without stopping requires seven hour-The South Kensington Museum demands still longer time and its treasures are beyond description It is free three days and there is the small charge of sixpence on other days. The National Art and Portrait Gallery, which will well repay weeks of study, is free five out of seven days Hamotoe Court, Kew Gardens, Kenwington selace, Guildhall, Tower, Houses of Parliament Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, Windsor Palace, all free. Simply to name the other galleries, museums and places of great interest thich may be seen without charge would be impossible

The best theatres, however, are expensive stells, corresponding to our orchestra, not less than "ten and six," about \$2.60; dress circle, our first balcony, "seven and six," about \$1.85; pit cents, top gallery 25 cents. In many it is necessary to pay sixpence (12 cents) for a programme and the same tar care of wraps. There are a tew accound class theatres which are less expensive and many music halls, etc., with price to suit the purse. Many of the parks furnish All are enclosed with high iron tences and the gates are shut at 10 o'dock. None of the theatres and very tow of the galleries and muscums are open on Sunday. a few on Sun day afternoons, but nothing is provided on Sunday aights for the millions of people, except to go to churches. There are 800 Episcopal or Church of England churches in London and 600 or the Non-conformist or other denominations.

The traveller cannot tail to be deeply impressed

with the immense size strength and stability of the buildings which contront him on every side. They seem to be intended for time and eternity. Some which were erected seven or eight hundred years ago are in use to-day. Those which are three or tour centuries old are too common to attract notice. The ones which have been built during the last half century will be as good as new when 2,500 comes rolling along. The stone is not white to begin with, and a tew years of London's soot and tog render it alnost black, so the city everywhere has a venerable appearance, and always in its monuments churches, palaces and public buildings that air of tremendous power and perpetuity. It is no wonder the Englishman is filled with mazement when he views some of our Govern ment buildings in Washington, and especially our Executive Mansion. The ruler of no other civilized nation is housed so badly as ours in

Architecturally the buildings here are inex-pressibly ugly. Notwithstanding the great value of land, in some places \$350 a square foot, they seldom rise to a height of more than four or five stories. The Bank of England, for instance, is situated on land worth this price, is only one story high and covers nearly five acres. This gives hem a flat appearance which is relieved, however in some cases, by lofty and massive Corinthian The private mansions are especially unattractive in outside appearance and can no ompare with our best American residences but within, what a wealth of pictures, sculpture tapestries and artistic furnishings! We have nothing like it in our country and cannot have or centuries, if ever. They represent the collections of generations of wealthy and cultured families who have lived in the same house, each adding to its embellishment. And they have not had to make a journey of six or eight thousand miles to gather and carry home their treasures, but most of them have been brought to their very doors. or made especially during the past centuries for the very places they now occupy.

These advantages which have been described are the high lights of London, but there are many and heavy shadows. The question which continually intrudes itself when one observes the power and majesty of the law, is, "Why does it not lay its hand on the liquor traffic." Such restrictions as it does impose are obeyed to the etter and there is no effort to evade them, but the magnitude of the business here and the amount of intemperance are appalling. The saloons ar closed only a few hours between midnight and daylight and they are wide open on Sunday ex cept during the hours of church service. Not only the Government but the church itself derives an mmense revenue from the liquor business, and it s said that high officials in both are directly con nected with it. In blazing signs over the doors of the wine shops are the words: "Purveyors to His Royal Highness"—and the various names of the Royal family given. On many of the church foors are notices tacked up telling when and where the excise board will meet to grant licenses to sell ntoxicating liquors. There are saloons every where and all of them crowded day and night

These conditions can be realized most fully by riding about the streets on the tops of the omni-buses and looking down into these places swarming with people. The most terrible feature i that there seem to be almost as many women as men. Behind the counter are the barmaids dealing out the drinks as rapidly as the men, and often among the bartenders are boys urteen or fifteen years. Lined up in front, elbow to elbow with the men, are women of all ages and conditions, tossing down their glass of whiskey, gin, or beer. Many hand over bottles and pitchers to be filled. Some are old and tottering and already half-drunk. Young mother lead in their children and give them a portion of their own glass. Mothers sit at the little table with a baby at the breast, drinking a tumbler of gin or whiskey. It is just as common for a young fellow and his sweetheart to stand up at the bar in a saloon and take their beer or whiskey, as it is in the United States for them to go into a soda four-

tain, which is unknown here.
I have mentioned nothing which I have not seen nyself again and again, in all parts of London. not in the "slums" but in respectable streets. On one "ide of 12 miles the bus driver stopped five times in front of saloons and we sat there and waited while he and such passengers as chose went in and quenched their thirst. I have seen women drunk on the streets too many times to count, everal times dead drunk in the middle of the day ne lying in the gutter in the blazing sun not a block from a fashionable thoroughfare, one lying on a bench at the very door of Westminster Abbey. These women are bringing children into the world drunkards from birth, who must inevitably be paupers if not criminals. At the last census, tw years ago, Loudon was supporting about 107,000 paupers. The number is rapidly growing larger, it is said the increase of insanity is almost beyond belief, yet the traffic which produces both sanctioned by church and state. There seems to be absolutely no hope if women also are to be se drunkards, and yet, with the changed social conditions, this seems inevitable if the liquor trafis to continue unchecked.

The tobacco habit also is infinitely stronger and ere prevalent here than in the United States, although that may not seem possible. One meets s hundred men smoking on the streets here where he meets one there, and always a pipe. Cigars are eldom seen and cigarettes not often. Nine men out of ten smoke while walking on the streets with a lady, and do not remove the pipe even in conversation. It is impossible to get away from the dor of tobacco. On top of the busses, where every body rides in hot weather, all of the men, including the driver, smokes every minute. We were nto a crowd one day to view a parade, but had to ome away before it passed because every mar was smoking a strong black pipe. The women bere do not seem to mind it, but take a few which remselves occasionally. It is said that in the slum quarters" it is not an uncommon sight see them smoking on the streets. At a dinner of the distinguished women writers of London, give week or two ago, most of them lighted their igarettes after the feast. In the "smart set mposed of the nobility, smoking among the high orn dames is not an exception. I am told that net of the women's clubs here have their smoking oom. How far behind, or in advance, are the orien of America in this new departure?

The custom here of "turning to the left" has ndency to unliatance the reason of a foreigner in a serious article this week the Daily Mail grave asserted that "there is no excuse for people not oing this, as it is the rule in most civilized coun-des, including the United States. But after you finally have mastered this custom you learn that it applies only to driving, for in walking you must turn to the right. As the city is full of tourists there is a most ludicrous dodging about and frequent collisions which set people to swear-ing in seven different languages. The difficulty of finding one's way about the city also adds a good many gray hairs and wrinkles and causes one to break several of the Commandments There are very few streets as much as a mile bour and hundreds are only two or three blocks in ength. There are no numbered and no let ered streets. All have abstract names. tance is never calcula ed by blocks, indeed the name is unknown here. When you ask how far it is to any point you are told always, "Five minutes' walk" or "Ten minutes' walk," and if you are wise you will not fail to multiply this two. Directions are given like this: "Go to the top (or bottom) of the street, first turn to the right, second turn to the left, sharp to the right, straight ahead—there you are! You follow these directions implicitly, es you think, and often find yourself back exactly where you started Some of the busy streets are not wide enough for two teams to pass, and have a sidewalk only two feet in width. Sometimes you fetch up against a stone wall, but usually in a church yard. There is, however, only one way to learn London and that is to provi around on foot, and you have this consolation, that if you do not find the place you are loo ing for, you will find one just as interesting, for there is not a dult spot in the whole big city. IDA HUSTED HARPER.

Raid on the Park Row Newsboys Fourteen newsboys, arrested in Park Row after midnight on Friday, were taken before Magistrate Meade in the Centre street police court, yesterday, by Gerry society agents, on charges of vagrancy. Five confessed that they had run away from home. Seven had been arrested before. These seven boys were held for further examination. The rest were discharged.

TOWN HAD TO HAVE A HERO | When the resolution was passed Alderman Noble, SERGEANT SMITH GLADLY ORLIGED THE AUTHORITIES OF APPIN.

Distressingly Awkward Situation Arose at Omaha When a Regiment Came Home From Manila, and Smith Rose to the Occasion—The Mayor's Great Relief

The fact that war veterans are willing to do what they can to be agreeable received an illusration recently when a transport from Manila Francisco a regiment of volunteers that had been mustered out. The news of their home-coming had been cabled to the papers and several of them are distinguished men who had were especially described. Among these was a ertain sergeant, John Smith, who had saved the life of his Colonel in one of the battles. He was a real hero, and he gave as his home address the name of a town that for the purposes of this article shall be called Appin, Neb. The reason for concealing the true name of the town will

The Mayor and aldermen wished to run for ffice again without having any charges of misappropriation of funds brought against them, but the Mayor of Appin, Neb., had two sorrows. He bore up under them with cheerful resigna-tion. Indeed he was forced from their nature to hide them from all the world, and did not dare to seek sympathy even from his dearest friend, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, though he knew that the chairman was also suffering in secret. He spent many a lonesome afternoon in his office meditating on his troubles, but think as he might he could not devise a scheme that would call for the appointment at that time of the honored institution, "A committee headed by his honor, the Mayor, and comprising Alderman So and so and So and so, etc., with power to add to their numbers, which shall visit New York (or Chicago or some equally attractive city), and investigate the latest improvements ." These junketing trips are the delight of every well-regulated municipal body, but they must be justified by a plausible excuse.

The Mayor's predecessors had not missed a chance, and in consequence the town was alread; session of the ripest thought on asphalt. trolley systems, water works, electric lighting sewerage, and street cleaning. The municipa ownership of all sorts of attractive things has been investigated, and the whole gamut of ex cuses had been run. No one but an alderman or mayor can appreciate the pathos of such a situation, and it behooves the ordinary taxpayer o avoid harsh judgments, being wholly with out knowledge.

The Mayor's other cause of sorrow was the lack of loyalty shown by the town during the Spanish American war that was past and the one that is in progress. No company had been recruited in Appin and there were no home-coming heroes to be banqueted at the expense of the town. Assuredly his lines had fallen in prosaic places and dulness was becoming a burden.

One afternoon as he was trying for the fiftieth time to devise a feasible excuse, the door of his office was opened unceremoniously and a news paper reporter entered with democratic informality. He was a dreamy young man who looked, however, as if he might be full of sleeping energy. His mild brown eyes hinted of poetic fire and his drooping black moustache and irregularly curved line suggested a vein of humor, with capacity for extravagant but logical prevarication.

"Any news to-day, Mr. Mayor," he enquired, with a languor that showed the purely routine character of his call.

"Nary a new," said the Mayor, as he shifted his eet to a more comfortable position on his desk. As if pleased with his own little joke he stroked his sandy moustache and smiled at his visitor with a good natured sparkle in his politic grey eye.

"What's going on in the world to-day" he added. "Nothing much," said the reporter. "We are still expanding and expending in the Philippines And, by the way, that reminds me. Do you know anyone by the name of John Smith?

"Just a few," said the Mayor. "Where has the particular John Smith you are looking for got his "The John Smith I am looking for is a soldier. He is coming home from Manila with an honorable discharge and the report save that in one of the

battles he saved the life of his Colonel. His home address is given as Appin, Neh." "What's that?" said the Mayor, with interest,

"He is returning to his hirthplace, Appin. Neb., but no one here knows of any John Smith that enested for the war." "Well, some one must know him. I was just coming to the conclusion that this town hadn't enough loyalty to keep it sweet, but if any John Smith that was born here or ever lived here has reflected credit on the town, we must receive him as

becomes a hero. What's the matter with you interviewing me on the subject." "Interview you." asked the reporter who thinking hard.

the case? Here is a hero coming back to Appin and you have a chance to come out with a broadside advocating that he be received in prope style. Every other town worth the name has welcomed home some hero or other and do you hink we shall be behind them? Interview all the Smiths in town, even though you have to put your whole staff on the lob. Why, I know of several Smiths that might be the man. There was the widow Smith's Johnnie who left here five cears ago after his mother died. Perhaps it's Then Albert Perry Smith had a nephew that lived with him until he ran away seven years ago, and it I am not mistaken about it his name was ohn. Don't tell me that you can't find a John Smith. It takes all kinds of people to make a world and most or them are John Smitha Say,

Il go down to see your editor about this. "Hold on," said the reporter with kindling enhusiasm. "I have caught on and I would like o run this thing myselt. Come on with your nterview. What do you think should be don

In grave and dignified language the Mayo old or the pride and gratification he selt on finding that their herote tellow townsman was about to return to his early home. Or course it would e premature for him to suggest what should be e in the way of receiving brave Sergeant Smith out he would lay the matter before the council at is next meeting, on the following evening.

"New do your prettiest to work up enthusiasen and bring pressure to hear on the municipal authorties. Work in some sentiment and such stuff." "Don't you worry," said the reporter. "I see unlimited space in this story. There is nothing going on to-day, and the editor will just tall all wer me for bringing in such a story and he will ick himself for not seeing the possibilities of it

imself. You should have been a newspaper man." A few hours later the evening paper was out on he street with scarcheads built as nearly as pissible on the architectural lines of those in the big yellow dailies. It even had what purported to be a picture of Sergeant Smith, surrounded by Ameri an flags and all the impressionable girls proceed ed to fall in love with him,

On the following evening the Mayor walked into the council chamber dressed in his frock coat and carrying in his hand a glossy slik hat. After placing his hat on the desk carefully he called the meeting to order. The usual preliminaries were attended to and then the dignified Mayor rose and made one of the suave and courteous speeches for which he was famous. It was true that no one had been able to establish the identity of their fellow townsman; but that only made it the more necessary that his home coming should be notable. If a chad gone away so unost ntatiously it behooved. them to see to it that he should return in triumph, At least a dozen John Smiths, all of them honorable men, had been born or had lived in Appin, and he might be any one of them. It would be time enough to decide which one when he arrived. He was also glad to see through the press, that reflector of public opinion, that there had been spontaneous outburst of feeling on the part of all citizens when the home-coming of Sergeant Smith was announced and he was also pleased to notice that many of the best citizens had expressed them selves strongly in favor of a public reception of some sort and he felt sure that on such an occas

With this he left the matter in their hands. As soon as the Mayor sat down a number aldermen made stirring speeches, and the natural outcome was that a resolution was passed appropriating \$500 to defray the expense of the reception

the council could be relied upon to do its duty.

of the Pinance Committee, the Mayor's particula friend, looked at the Mayor and the Mayor looked at him. Things had gone so nicely up to thi point that it seemed safe to push them a little farther. He rose and made a discreet speech, which ended with a resolution calling for the ap pointment of a committee, headed by His Honor the Mayor, and comprising Aldermen So and so and So and so, etc., with power to add to their numbers. The "power to add" clause made the resolution go through without protest for no one who voted against it could expect to be added This committee was empowered to look after the details of a public banquet, and to go as far as

happiness of the Mayor was now fully resto The committee made arrangements by which they were to receive word of the arrival of the trans port from Manila as soon as it was sighted at San ments for the banquet and reception. During the days that intervened little was talked of in Appin except the home-coming of brave Sergeant Smith. The girls of the town organized themselves into brigade and after much heated discussion decided on the uniform that would be becoming to the majority of them. The school children were and began to practice marching so that they could

Omaha to meet the home-coming hero. The

As might be expected there were many flerce lisputes among the various branches of the Smith tamily as to who had the right to consider themselves related to the returning hero. All of them had managed to recall John Smiths of their particular tribe who had passed from their ken. The slain Smiths claimed the precedence because the sergeant's name was simply John Smith. hyphenated Smiths, the Perry-Smiths and Johnston-Smiths ascribed the simplicity of his title to the becoming modesty of a true hero. The Smythes, who for the occasion had returned to their rightful patronymic, used the same argument. In order to restore neace the Mayor announced that the hero would be permitted to select his own relatives which was surely a reward great enough for any hero. He intended to greet the sergeant first, himself, on behalf of the town, before anyone else could approach him: for everything must be done in an

Finally the news of the arrival of the transport at San Francisco came to the committee. A elegram was immediately sent to Sergeant Smith elling him that the committee would meet him at Omaha on whatever date he might mention After a period of anxious waiting the Mayor recrived a telegram in which was the one Wednesday.

The committee started out in due time or ten hours waited joyously in Omaha at the expense of Appin. At last the train they were waiting for arrived and a number of soldiers lumped to the platform. Among them was one who wore the uniform of a sergeant. The Mayor rushed up to him with the others following. "Sergeant Smith, is it not"

The sergeant saluted and looked at the eager party with undiaguised amazement. He was searded and they shortly discovered that his mouth was rull or strange oaths.

"I am the Mayor or Appin, and these gentle men are members of the Board of Aldermen." The veteran uttered an oath and then enquired "Well, where did they dig you all up? I left Appin two years ago I knew every man in the place. The old town must have expanded faster than the Union is doing. When did all

you people move in?" "Why, we have all been born and brought up is Appin. Most of us have lived there all our lives. explained the Mayor

"In Appin, Illinois?" "Illinola!" exclaimed the Mayor, turning pa and then red. "We come from Appin, Nebraska. The veteran went off into a roar of laughter that was a solo except for a slight titter from the newspaper reporter who had accompanied the communities. The sound attracted the Mayor's attention to the reporter, and he caught the re-

porter by the sleeve just as he was edging away towards the telegraph office.
"Wait a minute, Bill," said the Mayor pleadingly. "I have uncarthed a scandal in the waterworks department that will beat this story all hollow and I'll give you an exclusive tip on it if you keep this quiet until I have had a chance to think up

ome scheme to square things." "This is better than two scandals" said the delighted reporter. "Well, I'll give you two if you will be good."

The reporter consented to be bribed and the

fayor returned to Smith.
"Come over here to where we can get a quiet oom and let us talk the whole thing over. We have simply got to square this thing at home and I know you are a good fellow and will help

us out." The crest fallen committee straggled after the white apren was saked to prescribe a tonic suf ficiently powerful for the occasion. When he felt better the Mayor began enthusiastically:

"I have it, if Smith will help me out. No or in Appin knows what John Smith is coming, and even if you had been the very man we were looking for no one would know you. Now what is the matter with your coming along with us and having the time of your life? There is going to be banquet and fireworks and a rip-roaring time generally. If you come along and don't throw us down you will make a band of friends who will never go back on you." Now Smith was an adventurous soul and this

suited hm to a dot "By thunder!" he exclaimed with much laugh ter, in which the members of the committee joine weakly as their hope revived, "I went to the Philipines hunting for excitement but I never struct anything equal to this. There is no place like home after all. I am your man and I'll hike along with you wherever you want me to go so long as you don't ask me to make any speechea."
"Don't worry about that," said the delighted

Mayor. "We wouldn't let you speak even if you Happiness was so completely restored by this time that it bubbled over and it was a joyous and heart-free crowd that arrived at Appin early in the evening. During the trip it was arranged that

Sergeant Smith, much to his regret, should be called away that night on the business of his country and the members of the party contributed a handsome purse to pay for any inconvenience

When the party alighted at the station a local band promptly exploded into military music and Smith was hustled into a carriage to the strain of Lo the Conquering Hero Comes." There he was obliged to stand while the leader of the Girl' Brigade launched an address at him with deadly elocutionary effect. Then the school children marched past cheering and throwing firecrackers. Different representatives of the great Smith family tried to get near enough to identify the hero, but the members of the committee had become so fond of him that they could not leave him for a moment. They kept him to themselves so closely hat no one clse got a chance even to shake hands with him. Then he was taken to the banquet hall. and whenever a Smith approached four or five members would crowd around him to talk to him and fill his glass until the danger was past. There was much glorious speech making and the hero was toasted in a dozen different ways.

When it came time for him to respond, the Mayor ose instead and explained in one of his most grace ful speeches that their brave fellow townsman was a man of deeds rather than of words. They would all undoubtedly have a chance to renew acquaintance with him when he finally returned to town but it was a matter of regret to the brave sergeant, as it doubtless would be to them, that he must go away on his country's business that very night. Indeed it lacked but a few minutes of the time when his train would be at the station.

By much skillful management they got Smith out of the banquet ball without letting out their guilty secret, and he was the most distressingly illarious man in the whole Union.

"Wait a minute," he howled to his new friends when he reached the station. "This reception ousiness suits me right down to the ground. roing to telegraph the Mayor of Appin, Ill., telling that I will be home on Monday. Perhaps ! will have enough gumption to do things up right,

When the train finally rumbled out of the station the Mayor and members of the committee felt as if the whole weight of it were rolling off their minds.

FOURTH AFENUE'S MOST STRIKING PRCULIARITY.

Old Shops Have Been There for Years They Have Followed the Uptown Move-ment-Ram Articles to be Found in Some of Them-A Valuable Adam Desk. Fourth Avenue has for a long time possessed characteristic which has made it different from any other city thoroughfare. It has always en the favorite location of the dealers in gold

fishes and of those whose wares are antiques Possibly because trade used to roll rather slug gishly through the street these two forms of bus ness settled there first. Since that time many changes have been noted. One by one the build ings that were formerly characteristic of the stree have disappeared. Not half a dozen of the low red brick houses which used to be the street's most familiar type remain now below Fourteenth street. Union Place, as persons used to call the block of houses between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets, has disappeared. Not far from Twenty-third street stands one group of low, broad red brick dwellings which used to be cupied by some of the city's oldest familles. On can still find old-fashioned names, but Fourth avenue is no longer a street of residences. ering buildings, hotels, and above all the white of the trolley, have obliterated nearly all that used to be typical of its rather lazy atmosphere But there still remains the characteristic of the thoroughfare most familiar to New Yorkers this generation. Near its southern end still cluster the litt

shops displaying in their windows the gold fishes canary birds, aquariums, and water plants dear to the childish heart. They are there still but probably in diminished numbers. They do less to give the street its distinctive character than the antique shops, which have grown more numerous every year. Most of them have followed the inevitable northward movement to which even such a business as that of dealers in antique must yield. The growing taste for the wares these men sell has served to increase the number of dealers. To-day only a few remain below Four teenth street in what was formerly the locality they frequented most. Some of them are still t be found there, but the majority have made long jump, skipping altogether the stretch the lies between Fourteenth street and Twenty-third and landing on the blocks from Twenty-fourt up to Thirtieth street. On one block of Fourth avenue, between two streets not far from th beginning of the tunnel, are three dealers in gen eral antiques, and one man who makes a specialt of a particular phase of them. When it is known that every other block on the street within a ditance of half a mile has an average of two shops it will be seen how characteristic the dealer i antiquities has become to that upper stretch the avenue.

There is scarcely a phase of their busine which these men do not supply. From the mos rickety horsehair sofa, posing as an American antique, although it fails at least twenty or thirty years shy of a right to that designation, up the finest Chinese porcelains, these men offer everything old to the patrons who come to them Naturally it is furniture that attracts most. The taste for antiquities has not declined as fads which begin with such violence usually do. Once the taste for antique furniture has seized hold of a person, he, or more probably, she, will never get over it. Anything modern is an abominaion. Comfort for its own sake is a contempti ble device which nobody with an idea above the most material things of life should ever consider The only persons ever known to fall back into their original state of ignorance of the beautie of antique furniture never are those who have never really passed through the first stage of the disease. This includes that virulent time in which any old thing, so long as it be mahogany includes that virulent time in and sufficiently battered, is enough of an antique to appeal to the woman in search of the old. Draw ers may creak and groan or refuse to budge al together, chairs may totter on their legs, or ook-case doors may decline to be opened except after herculean efforts and may then sud enly expand until there is no closing them again -all these are as nothing to the eager beginner.

After a while the barren pleasure of possessir all this uncomfortable and rickety stuff begins o impress itself on her. If she has seen more furniture, had the opportunity to observe good modis, and seen the best specimens of what the old makers used to turn out, the probabilities are that she will soon acquire a hearty disgust fo her own trash. If she has been only slightly inoculated with the old furniture idea, sh lecide that it is all clumsy and hideous, and sell what she has at the very first chance; but if her nthusiasm for old things is real, the inconven ience attached to their use will not disturb her after she has learned that beauty sometimes compensates for the temporary inconvenience in their use. She may decide that her old furdays of the best English and Colonial models but to a debased period that followed these by several generations. She will realize that the beautiful designs in fine old woods are still to be had by the person with more patience and interes than money, and she will soon learn in her career as a collector that antique furniture is not synony mous with inconvenience. She will not sell all her possessions quickly and decide that modern furniture is better. She will dispose of them slowly and if she waits long enough, advantageously One consolation is always in store for the un fortunate purchaser of antiques who finds to her chagrin that she has made a mistake. Ther are always beginners who are just as green as the was, and are willing to buy her old furni ture when her own artistic ideas have got be yond it. She will then pass into that stage that discriminates in the selection of antiques, and buys only those that have some other title to her consideration than mere age and possibly not a touch of that

City collectors are not so likely now to make the mistakes that used to be common. The awkward heavy pieces that used to be dragged our of country houses and cherished as triumphs of genuinely antique style, are a thing of the past Dealers buy them, saw them up, and make them nto pieces that really have some artistic merit So the collector who buys in a city shop does not have so often to undergo the training which is almost the inevitable lot of the man or woman who begins to buy in the country. The influence of antique furniture is to be observed not only in the great demand for it, but also in the reproduction made and offered as such to the public. Many of these are more enduring than the genuine a ntiques frequently put on sale. They are certainly mor stable, likely to endure better, and especially successful when they are reproductions of an American or English design. Any true collector would scorn to take one of these as a substitute for a genuine piece, but it is a fact that as mere furniture it may serve its purpose better than genuine piece which has not been carefully, and that means expensively, restored. Who but a collector would deny that it is better to possess a piece made after a fine model than an old original without grace or beauty? The obvious answer to this is that collectors desire only pieces that are original, and at the same time beautiful.

It is in search of this furniture that the people go to Fourth avenue in numbers sufficient to support the many shops centered there; but there are other objects than furniture to tempt them. Chinese procelains are there. French laces, old Turkish embroideries, jewels, fine furniture made in the style of the various Louis, stained glass and some paintings, silver, and every form of knick knack which can appeal to the interest of the collector Possibly not all of these are old, but deal its admit that they are not in many cases. Sometimes the dealers are not so frank, but the articles are as genuine as wares of the same kind to be found any country in the world. Usually they are likely to be in good taste, and artistic enough to be ornamental. Some of the smaller shops are rare ly filled with customers. A person entering one them would in the majority of cases find no other customer there before him, but all these shops seem to thrive nevertheless, and their number is as great as it ever was:

Prices are no higher than they would be for similar objects in Europe. It is a fact that Europe a better market for very expensive antique than the United States. There are more persons there who will pay high prices for rare antique This was shown by the experience of one of the Fifth avenue men last year. He bought fiv snuff boxes, that ranged in price from \$200 to \$1000

THE STREET OF ANTIQUES. from a European dealer, and sent out notices to SPEARING FOR SEA BASS. some of his best patrons. These boxes were realifine. His patrons admired them, but nobod seemed likely to pay the prices they were worth After considerable delay he sold the cheapes He waited for several months, with no sign of b ing able to get rid of the others, and then returned them to the European dealer, who sold them fo him abroad.

Most of these Fourth avenue shops devote their attention principally to furniture, because New York demand is principally for that. The American taste in expensive antiques seems to be confined chiefly to furniture. For it prices are paid which the richest collector would never think of giving for a snuffbox or fan. Possibly that is one phase of the very practical American character. None of the Fourth avenue shope ever held a finer specimen of an antique than desk now in the largest establishment of all thos collected on the avenue. Fine enough for a mu seum is the ladies' boudoir writing deak in Schmit brothers' at the corner of 25th street and Fourth avenue. It is in satin wood, with Adams de signs of an unusually elaborate characterist style. It is almost aval in shape, and the little platform which runs across the back of it is divided into compartments and small drawers. Nearly the whole surface of the satin wood is covered wit exquisite decorations, but the most striking feat ure is a series of seven portraits of Lady Hamilto which were presumably done by Romney. They are in his style, signed with an R. The legs of the deak are beautifully festooned with flowers cupids and other characteristic details of the Ad ms design. Less elaborate than this is an Adama sola, which is just as fine a specimen of its kind. Both pieces came from a sale of a collection in Ireland which took place a short time ago They have been in this country only a week. price put on the deak is \$1,000 and the sofe is to be sold for \$500. Not many such specimen as these come into the business of the Fourth avenue dealer. Such works of art as well as such prices are rather rare. But there are treasures for the collector in most of these places, and the prosperity of the shops to-day shows that their reputation is not altogether local. Many strang raare in New York, and there are enough of then as patrons at these places to show that their repu ation is known outside of the metropolis

MISSION TO THE PLUTOCRATS.

Socialistic Book Store Opened on a Broad Street Cellar Stairway.

On the steps leading to a temporarily und cupied cellar in Broad street an undersized young nan displays a number of more or less sho worn books and pamphiets. Rough cardboard piacards announce that "All cratic an anticratic literature" is for sale there, and another sign says that one can buy all socialistic anarchistic and single tax publications there.

This young man is a brand new reformer, and ne has coined a new word to describe himself. He appears to be about 21 years of age, though he says he has reached his twenty-sixth birth day. His voice is sharp and penetrating and his ccent betrays the foreigner.

"My aim in life is to propagate my ideas, which I know are correct and absolutely just," said he, and it is my earnest desire to educate the people up to my standard of intelligence. Down here the very heart of the plutocrats I expect to make quite some headway, and I am glad to see that many a man buys radical books and pamphlets from me who never knew that some copie differ fundamentally from him."

And then he began to eulogize certain books leating with sociology, anarchy and free land maintaining all the time that no intelligen man could refute the arguments contained therein

"What is an anticrat?" the reporter asked "Well, you know what a democrat is, or what we understand under the terms of autocrat, aris tocrat, plutocrat, They all contain the Greek word "crat," which means ruler. Now anticra I apply to one who is against all rulers. Th term means just what it expresses, one oppos to all sort of rulers, be they retigious, econor That's clear, is it not?" ocial or political.

The reporter said that he understood this lefinition to apply to the theory of anarchism, and that he could not see any essential different etween an anticrat and an anarchist

"Won, you are right" said the young "In a certain sense they hold views. But I have good reasons similar views. to object to being cailed an anarchist. There are so many different kinds of anarchists that it would take my whose ufetime to expiain what sor of an anarchist I am. Then again, my economic views differ as much from those of the anarchists as they do from the most rigid protectionist, and finally, the term of anarchist has become a re I could find no place of sociological thought which would suit me, so I invented the term anticrat.

ovels among the books, and the young reforme hastened to explain that he did not sell them from choice but from necessity. "I would not sell any thing but radical works," said he, "but I have to live. There is very little demand for such books People will not read that which is most beneficial to them, and I am compelled to cater to their proferences in some degree. But I never recommend them anything which I do not honestly believe will do them good. Still, if they ask for novels I sell them, for even reformers must eat."

Mr. Horr -that is the name of the young manlaunched into an exhaustive and elaborate dis ertation upon the possibilities of his theories, then suddenly he checked himself and said: "If you are really interested to learn important truths, come up any Weinesday or Saturday night to Madison avenue. There in front of Dr. Parkhurst's Church you can hear me explain my position thoroughly and in such a way that an intelligent man mus

On the two nights named Mr. Horr speaks, de bates and answers questions with untiring zeal and energy from 8 o'clock until past midnight This platform is an old dilapitated chair, and ever standing upon it, his head is only on the level of a man 5 feet 10 inches tall. What helacksin heigh he makes up in voice and energy. He talks untiringly about politically and economically fre and, the accumulation of interest, the multiplication of cost and value of machinery, the productive capacity of man and beast; he quotes statistics, economic questions, definitions and feductions faster than a phonograph, but as he himself says: "These things are very complicated and it takes serious study to understand them. He usually leaves off with the remark: "If you can ot comprehend me it is because your intellect is far inferior to mine; it takes brains to see these mportant truths."

To say that his audiences, made up largely rom the idlers in the adjacent park, take him se lously, would be far from the truth. They jeer at him, they make sneering remarks, and the exasperate him to such an extent that he threat ened once to call on the police to disperse the crowd "You're a good one," rejoined one of his hearers Did you not say a few minutes ago that you do not believe in police, soldiers or state, and now you want the police to defend you from the practice rorkings of your theory?"

With similar pleasantries the time passes, and arguments are put forth with such celerity and profundity that none but a sociologist could fol-

> Treed By Panthers. From the Morning Oregonian.

Mr. Rosswell, a creamery man of Portland, met with a rather thrilling adventure a day or olumbia. While on his way to the farm, which s in the bills some distance back from the river, evening came on and two panthers came out of the roods seeking whom they might devour. Mr. Rosswell flew for a tree, up which he ascended till the stars winked like arc lamps. He remained there and the panthers watched below till 3 o'clock in the morning, when a native came over the hill on his way home from a dancing party, singing, "We Won't Go Home Till Morning," in a style which caused the panthers to take to their heels. Then Mr. Rosswell descended in a hurry and scared the daylight out of the wandering minstrel. who thought old Nick was after him. He ran in one direction and Mr. Rosswell in another, and if any panthers ever find either of them in that neck of woods again late at night, they can eat them

RNSENADA ON THE LOWER CALL. FORNIA COAST THE PLACE TO GO

It is About One Hundred Miles Below the National Border and There Are Custom House Officers To Be Met at First. "Let's go to Mexico," said a jolly looking man

who, with two companions, had been riding South trom San Diego, and were now standing looking at the peaceful town of Tia Juana, which transated means "Aunt Jane."

"All right," was the answer, "line up." The three men placed themselves in a row. The lat one counted "one, two, three," and they umped all together and landed in Mexico.

"I don't see anything of especial interest," remarked the fat man; "let's go back." So they lined up again and jumped back into the United States Then the lat man put one toot in Mexico, leaving the other in the States. Just at that moment a Mexican official came up and said: "You are visiting Mexico?

"Well, partly," replied the fat man. "I am the custom-house officer," said the official

in Spanish. "You sabe?" "Si, senor, I sabe. Have you the sugar andlet me see," stroking his moustache thoughtfully, "have you the pencil case of my aunt?" this in text-book Spanish.

"No," replied the official, "I have not the pencil case of your aunt; what of it?" "That's what I've been trying to find out,"

said the 1st man, "why such a question was ever put in a book. That's the way I learned Spanish-have you the handkerchiet case of m The official began to suspect some game. "Is

your triend off?" he inquired of one of the trio. "Oh, no; I'm merely learning Spanish in two weeks," spoke up the tat man. "Can I converse I can converse in Spanish in two weeks without a

"Well," said the customs man, showing his badge, "it you are visiting Mexico I must search

"Hold on," retorted the 1st man, who held a valise, "you will notice that I am standing on the Mexican line, with my right leg in Mexico, and my lett in the United States. Examine my right side it you please, but you have no right to examine my lett and the bag, as they are not in Mexico."

The official stared at the imperturbable face of the American in amazement

"But I will pull you into Mexico," he said. "You will, ch?" retorted the fat man. "All right go shead. But lay your hand on me and pull me over the line, and as a sovereign citizen of a republic where every man is a king and every woman a dictator, I will call upon our Government, and if I prove that you have forcibly torn me from my native soil, kidnapped me, as it were, my nation will demand satisfaction and we will annex the whole of this peninsula. Don't arouse us any more, senor; we're right on the annex."

At this juncture another Mexican came up and the two officials consulted. As a result, the first approached and said: "I will search the part in Mexico," and there-

upon he thrust his hand into the fat man's pocket, finding nothing. Finally the fat man relented and crossed the line and presently the party were drinking the red wine of Tia Juana and toasting McKinley. They were bound for the bay of En senada, about one hundred miles down the coast, and made it over land over a road that is attractive in winter but hot in summer; the same old road which the padres traversed in olden times when making the links of the ecclesiastical chain that bound the missions of Lower California to those five hundred miles up the coast. Ensenada is on a little bay, one of the best on the lower coast, and is a typical Mexican town, with its soldiers, brass band and palace for the Governor-General. Back of the town rise high mountains-the Sierra Madres-reaching down and beyond them the hot gulf of Lower California, one of the most remarkable game countries regions in the country, Ensenada is famous among a few for its fine fishing the year around, and among other inducements an old Mexican suggested spearing sea bass. The sea bass here and on the Cali fornia coast are magnificent fish, resembling the Eastern striped bass in shape, but in color they are a dark gray that on close inspection proves to be a coat of many colors; and when the fish are landed they are veritable humming birds, gleaming with all the colors and hues of the rainbow. They range up to a hundred pounds and over, the average fish weighing fifty pounds, and are remarkably gamy. There was one back to this place, boats were scarce and all the men were away on the Yaqui war scare, but a

boat was finally hunted up and the party started. "You know, along the California coast," said the fat man, in telling his experiences when he home, "the sea bass fl ous, the season being from May to July 1st, but generally lasting only a few weeks. But here it was, so far as we could learn, in season all the time. We first tried our rods and found not only sea bass but yellow tail of large size; and as for black sea bass, they ran up to four and five hundred pounds When we had caught all we wished of yellow tail we took up the spear, and the Mexican, who looked s though he might be a descendant of one of the Montezumas, rowed us slowly along. The base are fine fish to spear, as they lie or swim on the surface, and we soon ran into a school. It was enough to give a man the buck fever to see them, and I confess the spear handle did jerk about in my hands. There were bass by the hundred our and five feet long, and so thick that by looking down we could see them in seeming layers; one of the most beautiful sights it was ever my good

"We picked out as big a one as we could and got the boat within eight feet of him, and then let g I was a good hand at the grains when as younger," said the fat man, "and I found that I had not forgotten it, as the iron struck the big fish fairly in the back With a rush it dived, burling a bucket of water into the air. The line was not over fifty feet long, and was soon jerked overboard, and away we went after the fish directly out to sea It made a game fight, towing us right in the face of wind and sea, now plunging down, rising, fighting every tug on the line, circling round, racing away with reientless force, taking ever nch of line we gained, and giving us the fight of our lives. The fish towed us and a heav boat a mile before we brought it to gail, and then it took three of us to get the struggling creature into the boat. We took two more fish in this way, ranging up to one hundred pounds.

fortune to see

Ensenada is so far from the line of general travel that it is not apt to be crowded, but in the winter it has a fair quota of tourists, and if its attractions were known, its fine quail shooting and fishing, its climate, many more would find it. It lies one hundred miles south of San Diego, and can be reached either by carriage or by boat.

Petrified in an Undertaker's Shop From the Philadelphia Times

ARDMORE, Sept. 3.—The bedy of the man who was killed on the railroad at Malvern last Wednesday evening and which has been awaiting identification at the undertaking rooms of Jostah S. Pierce, will be buried in Potters' Field to-morrow, unless identity is established before that time. Some six years ago a man met a similar death near Bryn Mawr, and his body was given in charge of Mr. Pearce. As is usual, he at once embalmed it. At once petrifaction took place and the body emains to this day in his establishment unidentified, but in a perfect state of preservation. The scientific and medical fraternities have investigated the case, and Mr. Pearce has had many offers from showmen and museum managers to purchase the body, but he has refused all offers and retains in his possession one of the greatest curiosities of the kind on record.

Worse off Than He Thought.

From the Chicago Tribune, Shadbelt - Well, I'm \$50 worse off than I was year

Shadbelt - Woll, I'm \$10 worse off than I was rester lay morning."
Dinedre - How's that?"
Shadbelt - I was used up by footpade on my way home last night and robbel.
Dinguts - The sorry for you, old man. But they didn't get the \$5 i horrowed of you before you started home, anyhow.
Shadbolt - That's so. I forgot that. I'm \$86 worse off than I was yesterday morning."